United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Adjustment Administration Division of Information

THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN FARMER



The American farmer still has the American market for the things he produces, the same as he has always had. For many years he has been supplying approximately 90 percent of the domestic market. In recent years that percentage has not declined; in fact, it has increased slightly.

But why doesn't the American farmer, with his agricultural surpluses, supply 100 percent of the domestic market? There are two principal reasons:

First, he would be raising products which he is not equipped to produce, such as coffee, rubber, silk and bananas. These commodities could be produced in this country only at a high unit cost, if at all.

Second, because he would be shutting out all imports of foreign farm products into this country, his products would likewise be barred from foreign markets. Since the American farmer needs more than the American market, he could not afford that course. For instance, during the past 17 years, our domestic agricultural exports have averaged \$1,169,000,000 whereas competitive imports have averaged only \$697,000,000. To have gone on a strictly nationalistic basis during this period would have cost the American farmer \$472,000,000 a year.

In other words, it is more economical for the farmer to produce an abundance of those commodities which he is best equipped to produce—with them supplying the home market and selling the remainder abroad — while he lets foreign producers supply a trickle of competitive imports and certain specialty articles not so readily produced in this country.

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THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN FARMER, CALENDAR YEARS 1924-40

Percent Domestic Market Supplied by American Farmer (6)	\$888888888888888888
Percent Imports of Domestic Farm Warket Column (3) di- vided by (4) / (5) Fercent	110011001000000000000000000000000000000
Value of Farm Market Column (1) -2 + (3) (4) Million Dollars	11, 28, 51, 11, 99, 99, 11, 99, 99, 12, 99, 99, 10, 13, 44, 55, 99, 99, 99, 99, 18, 99
Competitive Farm Imports +25% (3) Million Dollars	1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2,
Domestic Farm Exports -15% (2) Willion Dollars	11.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1
Gross Farm Income (1) Willion Dollars	11,848 12,846 12,727 12,731 10,279 10,279 10,279 10,240 10,240 10,240 10,089 10
Years	1924 1925 1926 1927 1937 1937 1936 1936 1936 1936 1936 1936

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Excludes Government payments.

Compiled by Division of Information, AAA, from published U.S.D.A. data.

THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC BEEF MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN BEEF PRODUCER

The American beef market belongs to the American farmer, and is controlled and dominated by him. Since 1923, annual imports of cattle and beef have averaged only 3 percent of our total domestic production. These imports have varied from year to year in accordance with the level of cattle and beef prices. In 1929, for instance, when prices were high, imports equalled nearly 6 percent of domestic production. During the depression as prices declined imports also declined, until in 1931 they equalled only 1 percent of domestic production. Later, when prices improved, imports again expanded somewhat. In 1937 when prices were around pre-depression levels, imports were equal to about 5 percent of the domestic production. In 1940 imports were a little more than 4 percent of domestic production.

Live cattle from Canada and Mexico, together with canned beef, largely corned beef from South American countries, comprise the bulk of these imports. The imports of canned beef in terms of carcass beef usually exceed those of live cattle.

Imports of live dutiable cattle during the past four years have been somewhat higher than the pre-depression level. For the 1937-40 period they averaged 575,687 head annually as compared with 454,670 for the 1927-1929 period.

Imports of canned beef in recent years have on the average exceeded somewhat the pre-depression levels, as the United States has come to depend almost entirely upon South America for its canned beef.

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Prior to 1934 this country had practically ceased producing canned beef, as facilities for this type of canning in the packing industry were very limited and as American packers apparently found that other methods of sale were for the most part more economical. Before the War quantities were canned domestic ally but this beef came largely from low grade cattle and was inferior in quality to that now imported. As a rule, much of the inferior quality beef previously put up domestically in cans is now sold as sausage ingredients and utilized in the manufacture of sausages. Domestic packers have usually found a better outlet in the fresh meat trade for the domestically produced beef of the grade from which the imports of canned beef have been produced than has been possible through the domestic canned meat industry. Consequently, we have come to depend upon South American canned beef.

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THE SHARE OF THE DOLLISTIC BEST MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN FARMER, CALENDAR YEARS 1924-40

Percent Imports are of Production	Percent The property of the p
Production of Beef and Veal Dressed-weight Basis	Thousand Founds 7,849,000 7,867,000 8,044,000 7,262,000 6,544,000 6,544,000 6,541,000 7,331,000 7,331,000 7,331,000 7,331,000 7,310,000 7,927,000 7,927,000 7,927,000
is Total Cattle	Thous and Pounds 86, 405 87, 260 129, 127 271, 028 724, 874 379, 687 209, 419 70, 256 82, 495 114, 159 159 350, 475 350, 644 4460, 092 350, 290
1 1-Weight Bas Other Seef	Thousend Founds 16,550 23,482 50,998 57,774 50,727 11,697 11,697 11,697 11,697 11,697 11,694 11,694 11,155
Dresser Cenned Beef	Thousand Founds 17,565 19,962 52,612 52,612 131,845 199,747 140,865 103,760 116,685 190,558 219,509 214,657 153,753
Cattle (dutieble)	Thousand Founds 50,440 46,678 53,033 130,033 130,033 17,797 19,200 9,229 11,091 105,009 127,075 153,600 130,332 220,818 182,761
Cattle (dutiable)	Number 141, 985 172, 910 211, 598 436, 204 517, 150 410, 656 226, 273 85, 570 95, 407 753, 570 630, 211
Year	1924 1925 1925 1925 1937 1937 1937 1935 1937 1936

1/ Imports for consumption; includes veal.
2/ Excludes mest from Government slaughter.
3/ Preliminary.

Compiled by Division of Information, A.A.A., From published U.S.D.A. figures.

THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC PORK MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN PORK PRODUCER

In the case of pork, as with practically all United States farm products, it is the volume of exports rather than the volume of imports that really concerns the American farmer. The American farmer has the American pork market; what he needs is an export outlet for his surplus hog products, rather than additional protection from foreign imports.

Up until 1936, pork imports into this country were so small as to be only a fraction of one percent of our total domestic production. During the three years 1936, 1937, and 1938, high pork prices, resulting chiefly from drought liquidation of herds, attracted slightly increased importations. During these three years pork imports amounted to one percent of our total domestic production. During 1939 and 1940 pork imports were less than 1/2 of 1 percent of home production. In other words, the American farmer has at least 99 percent of the American pork market. He also has some share in the pork and lard market of foreign countries.

The largest proportion of pork imports into this country previous to 1940 was the result of continued demand for such luxury products as canned hams.

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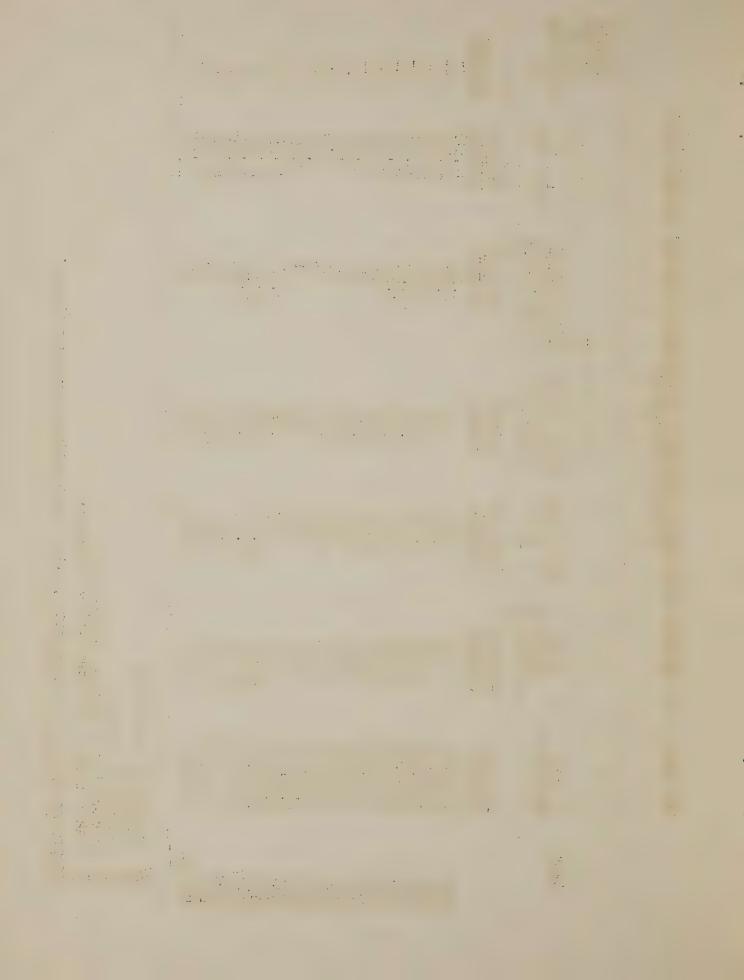
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THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC PORK MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN PRODUCER, EXIUDING LARD, CALENDAR YEARS 1924-40

Percent Imports	Production 5/	Percent	
	Total Pork	Thousand	10,513 18,495 12,135 14,823 12,866 10,918 10,372 11,438 53,936 11,438 11,014 5,728
s <u>1</u> /	Live Hogs in terms of Pork equivalent \frac{\pmu}{4}/	Thousand	19991 3,0991 1,099,09 1,099,09 1,099,09 1,099,09 1,099,09
Import	Fork, salted, pickled, and other 3/	Thousand Pounds	1, 24, 2, 4, 4, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6,
	Pork, fresh or frozen $3/$	Thousand	2,684 1,12,11 1,1511 1,154 1,154 1,154 1,093 1,658 1,287 2,2945 3,263
	Hams Shoulders and Bacon 3/	Thousand	257 1,157 1,157 1,157 2,979 1,979 1,672 1,422 1,422 1,742 1,759
	Pork Production	Thousand	9,149,000 7,966,000 8,430,000 8,430,000 8,430,000 8,739,000 8,337,000 6,986,000 6,986,000 6,986,000
	Year		1984 1985 1988 1988 1988 1988 1988 1988 1988

Converted at 55 percent of live weight Blanks indicate less than 1/2 of 1 percent. Imports for consumption Actual weight basis. Preliminary.

Compiled by Division of Information, A.A.A., from published U.S.D.A. figures.



THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC DAIRY MARKET SUP-PLIED BY THE AMERICAN PRODUCER

Particularly since the signing of the first Trade Agreement with Canada, much has been said about the "flood" of dairy imports which was ruining the domestic dairy market. The accompanying chart shows that even during the period of our heaviest dairy importations (1924-29), the amount of milk and milk products imported into this country never exceeded about 1.6 percent of our total domestic production. Since 1930, however, that percentage has been running somewhat lower and in 1939 amounted to only six-tenths of one percent of domestic production.

In 1940 about 355 million pounds of dairy products in milk equivalent were imported into this country for consumption, compared with an annual average of 1,371 million pounds for the 1924-29 period.

This trickle of dairy imports is made up primarily of special and fancy European cheeses supplying a luxury demand and a small amount of fresh milk and cream from Canada.

Dairy products by their very nature, of course, are not important items in foreign trade. Consequently, the American dairy farmer, with ninety-nine and one-half percent of the domestic market, is more interested in the improvement of this domestic market than he is in either dairy exports or dairy imports.

Changes in domestic consumer purchasing power are vastly more important to American dairymen than either the imports or exports of their products.

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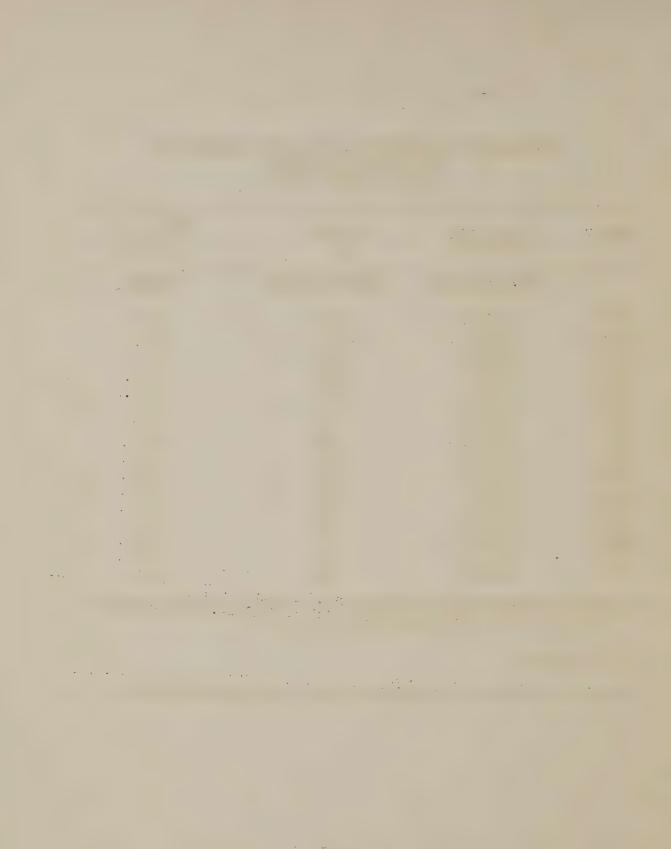
THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC DAIRY MARKET SUPPLIED BY
THE AMERICAN PRODUCER,
CALENDAR YEARS 1924-40

Year	Total Milk Production	Imports 1/	Imports as a Percent of Production
	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
1924	91,489	1,441	1.6
1925	92,616	1,320	1.4
1926	95,966	1,516	1.6
1927	98,153	1,479	1.5
1928	99,434	1,315	1.3
1929	102,121	1,158	1.1
1930	103,016	904	0.9
1931	105,890	677	0.6
1952	106,678	592	0.6
1953	107,579	510	0.5
1934	104,354	502	0.5
1935	104,247	986	0.9
1936	106,009	849	0.8
1937	105,958	86 7	0.8
1938	110,081	581	0.5
1939	111,384	614	0.6
1940 2/	113,898	355	0.3

Prior to 1934 "general imports," for 1934 and following years "imports for consumption." Milk equivalent.

2/ Preliminary

Compiled by Division of Information, AAA, from published U.S.D.A. data.



THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC CORN MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN CORN PRODUCER

As the normal producer of over half the world's corn, the American corn farmer is customarily the leading or ranking exporter of corn and corn products, such as pork and lard. Consequently, importing corn into the United States is like "carrying coal to Newcastle". The American corn producer owns and controls the American corn market.

Except for the unprecedented drought years, 1934-36, corn imports have never amounted to as much as one percent of our domestic production.

During the drought year of 1934, only 37,000,000 bushels of corn moved into this country for consumption. This amount was 3 percent of that year's production, which was 1,093,000,000 bushels below the 1928-32 average.

During 1936, with little reserve on hand, 104,000,000 bushels of corn were imported, amounting to about 7 percent of the 1936 production which was 1,048,000,000 bushels below the 1928-32 average. In view of the fact that 85 percent of our corn supply is consumed by livestock, these importations, small as they were, undoubtedly benefited the average American farmer and consumer.

Imports of corn come largely from Argentina and are consumed almost altogether in areas on the Pacific and Southeastern Atlantic coasts where little corn is grown. Corn can be shipped by boat from South America, meet the tariff of 25 cents a bushel, and sometimes still be cheaper in those deficit areas than corn shipped by rail from the Corn Belt of the United States. A very limited amount of Argentine corn, which is of a hard flinty type, is used in certain commercial processing of corn products.

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THE SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC CORN MARKET SUPPLIED BY THE AMERICAN PRODUCER, YEARS 1924-40

Year	U.S.Corn Production 1/	Corn Imports	Imports as a Percent of Production
	Thousand	Thousand	
	Bushels	Bushels	
1924	2,223,123	2,892	
1925	2,798,367	357	- constant
1926	2,546,972	3,750	-
1927	2,616,120	2,940	and yet
1928	2,665,516	342	
1929	2,521,032	846	most name
1930	2,080,421	1,386	
1931	2,575,611	377	qual most
1932	2,931,281	173	Qualification
1933	2,399,632	883	-
1934	1,461,123	36,955	3
1935	2,303,747	21,096	1
1936	1,507,089	103,669	7
1937	2,651,284	1,819	
1938	2,562,197	442	, garden
	2,602,133	1,114	Color Free!
1939 <u>3/</u> 1940 <u>3/</u>	2,449,200		

^{1/} Production in grain equivalent on entire acreage.

Compiled by Division of Information, AAA, from published U.S.D.A. figures.

^{2/} Year beginning October 1; includes meal; imports for consumption beginning 1933.

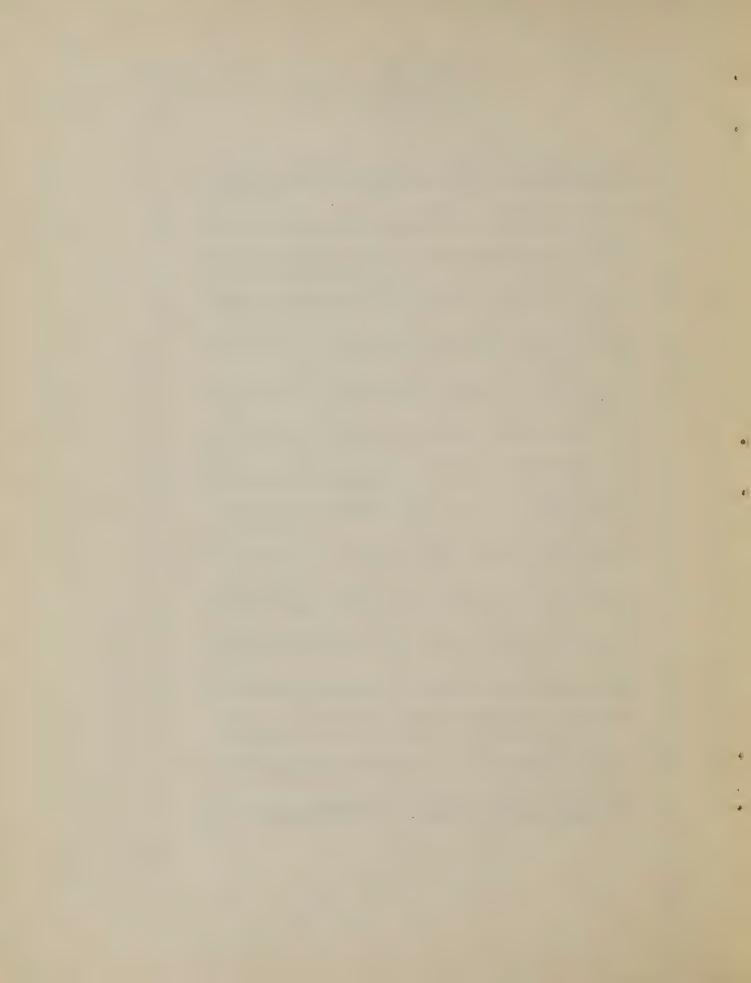
^{3/} Preliminary.

^{4/} Blanks indicate less than 1/2 of 1 percent.

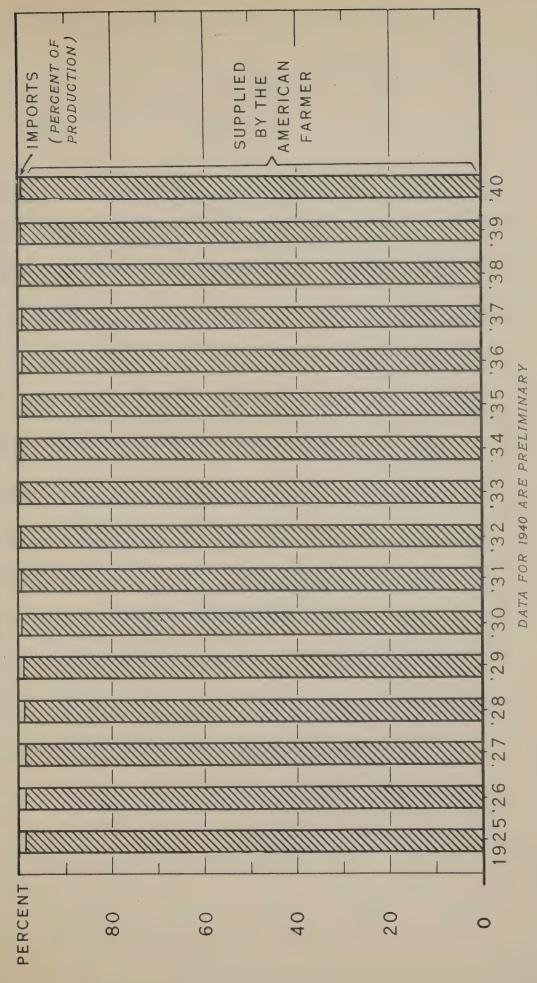
DOMESTIC MARKET ESTIMATED BY DEDUCTING FROM GROSS FARM INCOME (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS) 85% OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC FARM EXPORTS AND ADDING 125% OF THE VALUE OF GOM-EXPORT AND IMPORT FIGURES COMPILED BY FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE. FROM REPORTS OF THE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE. PETITIVE FARM IMPORTS.

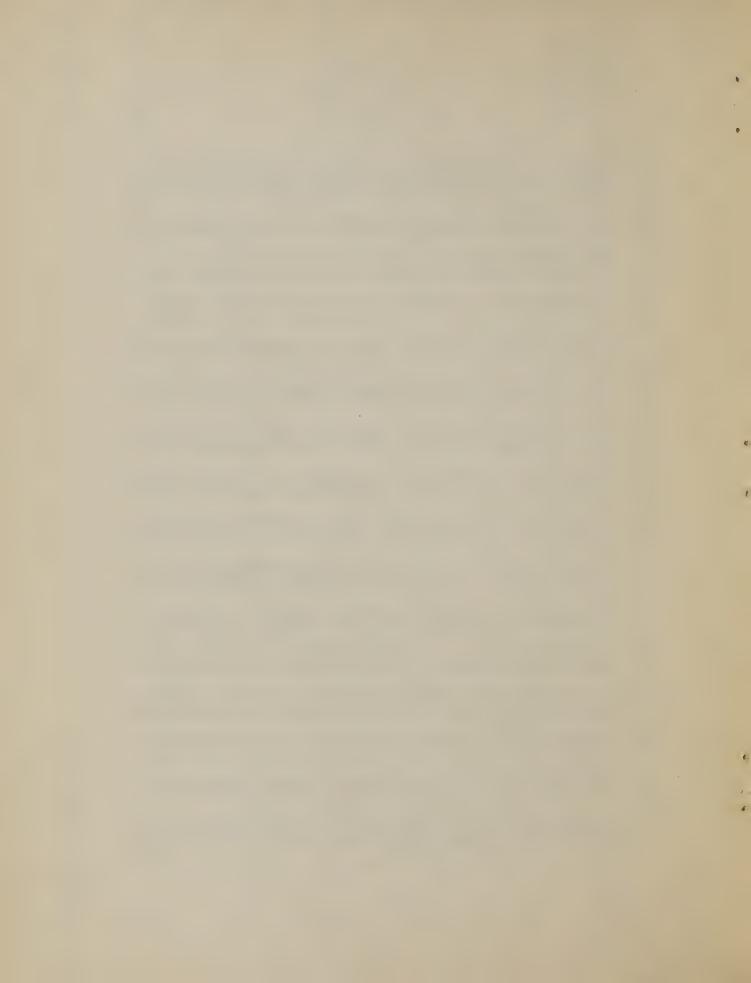
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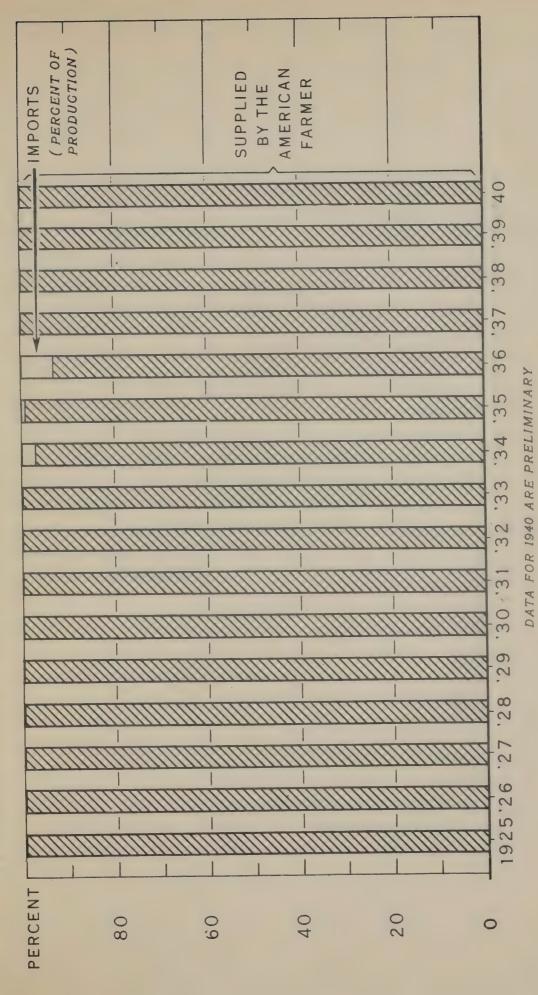
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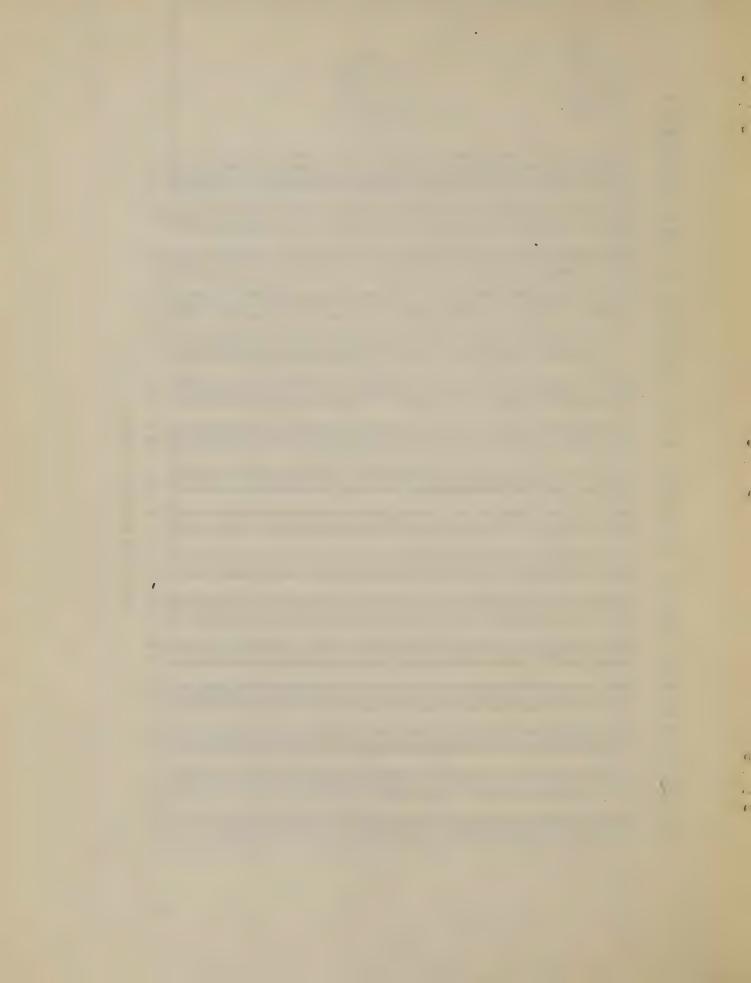
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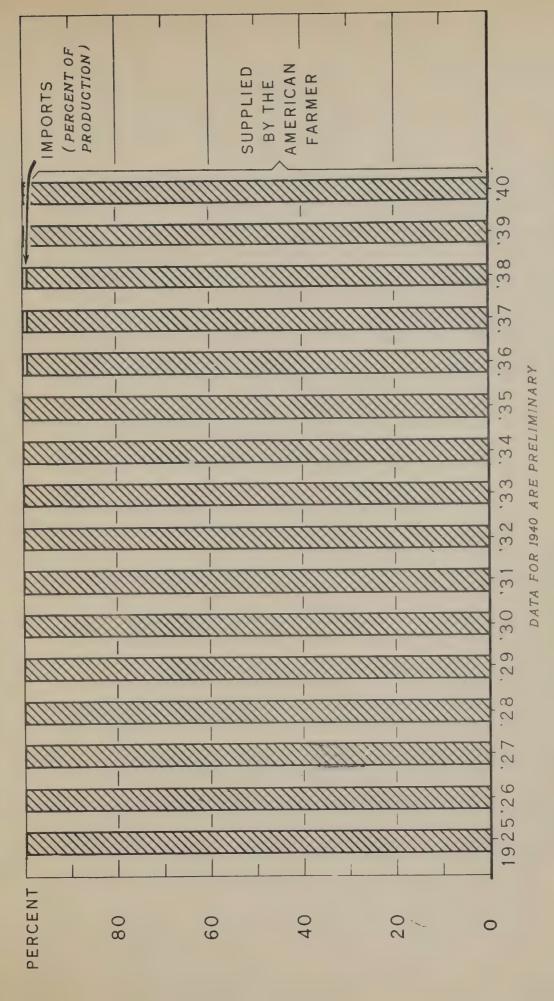




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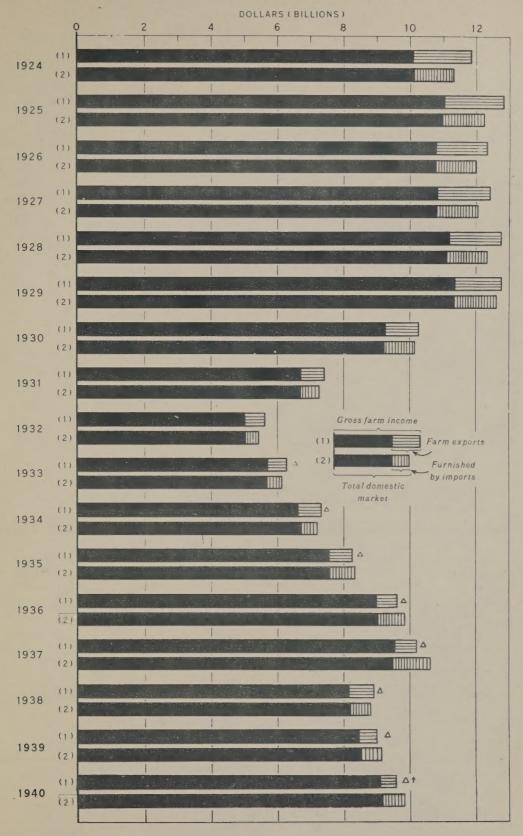
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THE DOMESTIC AND EXPORT MARKET FOR AMERICAN FARMERS



GROSS FARM INCOME AS REPORTED BY THE B. A. E. DOMESTIC MARKET ESTIMATED BY DEDUCTING FROM GROSS FARM INCOME (EXGLUDING GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS) 85% OF THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC FARM EXPORTS AND ADDING 125% OF THE VALUE OF COMPETITIVE FARM IMPORTS. EXPORT AND IMPORT FIGURES COMPILED BY FORFICH AGRICULTURAL SERVICE, FROM REPORTS OF THE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE.

4 EXCLUDES COVERNMENT PAYMENTS. † PRELIMINARY